

House Committee Advocates Bill to End Half-and-Half Tax Plan in District

MEXICAN CRISIS PUT UP TO PRESIDENT

VOTE 9 TO 3 IN
FAVOR OF END
OF 50-50 PLAN

Two Congressmen Reserve
Right to Oppose or Amend
Measure in House.

TO FILE MINORITY REPORT

See Move to Repeal Law For-
bidding Estimates in Ex-
cess of D. C. Revenue.

By a vote of 9 to 3, the House District of Columbia Committee today reported favorably the Mages bill to abolish the half-and-half fiscal relation that has existed between the District and Federal governments since 1878.

"I want to get the bill on the House calendar as soon after the holiday recess as possible," Mr. Mages told the committee. He was instructed to prepare the committee report. He promised to file it on the day the House reconvened.

Minority Report Seen.

Congressman Williams of Illinois, who opposes change from the so-called half-and-half plan, indicated that he would file a minority report.

Congressmen Murphy and Walters, who voted to report the Mages bill favorably, announced that by so doing they reserved the right to oppose it or offer amendments when it is considered by the House.

Those voting to report the bill were: Congressmen Mages, Overstreet, Lansing, Burdick, Murphy, Wood of Virginia, Walters, Dunes, Benson. Opposing the bill were Congressmen Gould, Williams and Hays.

Overstreet Favors Bill.

Congressman Overstreet held that to report out the bill would have a moral influence in its favor when it came up for consideration by the House.

He was present at only a part of the hearings that have been in progress during the past week, he said, and the testimony he heard was in favor of the bill. He voted to report the measure, but said he reserved the right to support amendments in the House.

"This question has been before the House repeatedly and has been argued pro and con," said Chairman Mages. "I feel sure that it has been gone into sufficiently to have it placed on the calendar."

Congressman Lampert, who was not present today, because of illness, notified Chairman Mages that he wished to be recorded as favoring the bill.

May Repeal 1909 Law.

Simultaneously with the consideration of the bill in the House, it is expected that a measure will be offered to repeal the law of 1909, which forbids the District Commissioners making estimates for the District in excess of the total revenue of the District.

With this restriction removed, the Commissioners will be able to put into their estimates a detailed schedule of many needs of the District, which it is impossible to include under the present system.

With the half-and-half restriction removed, Congress would have authority to appropriate for the District a sum in excess of that furnished by District. Advocates of the half-and-half contend that Congress will not exceed the District share, but will use every effort to cut down the Federal Government's appropriation to a minimum.

SENATE DEMOCRATS TO
PICK LEADER SATURDAY

A caucus next Saturday to settle the fight for the Democratic leadership in the Senate was called today by Senator Hitchcock, acting leader. Hitchcock and Senator Underwood of Alabama are candidates in the fight. The vote, which will probably be taken Saturday, is expected to be exceedingly close.

Holiday Railroad Tickets on Sale.

As a special accommodation for those wishing to avoid the holiday rush by buying tickets ahead of time for their Christmas travel, the railroad companies have decided to sell tickets at a special rate. Tickets will be on sale from December 18 to 22, and will be very heavy and early accommodations for traveling parties. By minimizing the amount of last-minute travel, the railroads hope to avoid the usual Christmas congestion. -Advt.

ME. HENRI COQUE-
LET, wife of French
officer, who is suing Balti-
more hotel for alleged in-
sult.



SUES HOTEL SHE
SAYS BARRED HER

Widow of French Officer Seeks
\$25,000 for Alleged
Insult.

Mrs. Henrietta Coquelet, widow of Lieut. Henri Coquelet, a French army officer, whom she married a couple of months before his death, in this city on October 30, has filed a suit in Baltimore for \$25,000 against the Caswell Hotel Company, of that city, for alleged improper ejection from the hotel on June 12 last, according to word received here last night.

Mrs. Coquelet declares that she and her husband registered at the hotel in the proper manner, and that as they were on the way to their room the clerk stopped them and told them they could not occupy it.

"I choose the people I want here," the clerk is alleged to have said. "There is the door and beyond that is the gutter."

She further alleges that the order was given before a crowd of persons, and that her reputation was greatly injured by "the malicious and scandalous words and actions of the clerk."

Lucius Q. C. Lamar, of Baltimore, is Mrs. Coquelet's attorney.

Lieutenant Coquelet had been in this country more than a year before he died, coming here after he had been wounded and gassed in the war zone.

U. S. COAST GUARD TO
BLOCK RUM SMUGGLERS

5,000 Men Ready for Work—Cuban
Waters to Be Patrolled
Carefully.

Efforts to transfer the coast guard from jurisdiction of the Treasury Department to that of the Navy were temporarily slackened today when it became known that Treasury officials want to keep their guard for the time being, to block liquor smugglers.

With most of the liquor in the United States tied up in warehouses and watched by Federal agents, and with the remainder dwindling so rapidly that "bootleggers" expect soon to be sold out, the Government recognizes whiskey smuggling will become enormously profitable.

The waters between Cuba and Florida are to be very closely patrolled, it was learned, in the belief that the smugglers will make Cuba their base of operations.

"The service has taken cognizance of the prohibition law, and will fight to prevent smuggling," Capt. Commandant W. E. Reynolds of the coast guard, said today.

Approximately 5,000 men and several vessels are ready for work.

4,000 AUTO LICENSE
TAGS FOR 1920 ISSUED

Four thousand 1920 automobile license tags have been distributed, Wade H. Combs, superintendent of licenses, announced today.

Congressman Ben Johnson of Kentucky got tag No. 1, Commissioner Brownlow, No. 2, and tag No. 100 will be given to President Wilson's limousine.

WAN INDUCED
TO RETURN TO
AVOID CHARGE

Detective Admits Telling Him
He Might Be Suspected As
Slayer Otherwise.

CORONER DESCRIBES WOUND

Chinese Educators Slain With
Revolver Like One Identified
As Prisoner's.

Fear that he would be accused of the triple slaying of members of the Chinese Educational Mission caused Ziang Sung Wan, on trial for his life in Justice Gould's court, Criminal Division No. 1, to accompany, without extradition papers, detectives to Washington from his home in New York.

Wan Came Willingly.

This was the testimony of Lieut. Guy E. Burlingame, night inspector of detectives, who took the witness stand just before noon today for the prosecution.

"Wan," said the police official, "told us that he was anxious that the murder of his friends be cleared up and that he would like to assist in unravelling the mystery, but that he had no funds and that he was ill, and for that reason could not accompany us to Washington."

"It was not until Kang Li, who accompanied him to New York, told him that he was the last man alive in the mission house and that he might be suspected should he fail to come to Washington with the detectives that he consented to willingly come here."

Conflicting Statements.

The testimony of Burlingame will lead to the attempt of United States District Attorney John E. Lasky and his assistant, B. J. Laws, to have the alleged confession of Wan that he had shot and killed Ben Sen Wu introduced into the record. Burlingame told of many conflicting statements made to him by Wan during their conversation in New York and on the train to Washington.

Burlingame gave details of the discovery of the triple crime and of his trip to New York for Wan with Detective Sergeant Edward J. Kelly and Kang Li, who had told the detectives that he had seen Wan in the mission house on the night of last January 29, when the three Chinese educators were slain.

Was Reading of Crime.

"When I mentioned to Wan that we were detectives from Washington he declared he had learned of the crime from the New York newspaper," Wan asked many questions. He wanted to know when the bodies were found, their location, and asked if the "murderers or murderers" had been arrested. He declared he was a good friend of the slain man, and said he was just drafting a telegram of "sorrow and condolence to my good friend Li."

The detective produced a piece of scratch paper, on which was written "shocked to read the death." This paper was offered in evidence by the prosecution.

Did Not Warn Wan.

At this point, Attorney James A. O'Shea, of counsel for the defense, asked Inspector Burlingame:

"Did you tell Wan if anything he said would be used against him?"

"No," said Inspector Burlingame, "I did not."

Frequently during Burlingame's recital of events on the trip from New York, O'Shea asked the same question.

"I asked Wan," continued Inspector Burlingame, "if he ever had been to Washington. He replied: 'No, the nearest I have ever been to Washington was Baltimore, where I stopped while on my way to New York from the West some years ago.'"

"Although Wan expressed sorrow

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Soviet Envoy to Washington
Held At San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Vladimir K. Vochetroff, claiming to represent 20,000,000 people of soviet Russia and to be on an important diplomatic mission to Washington, is held at Angel Island immigration station here for investigation, it was learned today.

Judgment of Solomon
Needed As Two Women
Claim Abandoned Baby

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—In the hands of two women—both sincere, but each holding a different belief—lies the future of the baby believed to be Arthur Wentz. As in Biblical days, it is more than likely that today the court of justice will be called on to decide the rightful possession of the six-month-old child.

Legal Lattle Imminent.

Nellie Bly, the noted writer for the New York Journal, whose name was on a tag attached to the baby's clothing, when it was left in the Grand Central Terminal said yesterday she had found the real parents of the boy.

Mrs. August Wentz, whose baby was stolen last July, insists the youngster is Arthur Philip Wentz. Her husband, August Wentz, who on Tuesday night denied the child was theirs, agreed yesterday that the boy was baby Arthur.

Mrs. Grace Humiston, who was employed to find the Wentz baby, says she is satisfied with the identification made by Mr. and Mrs. Wentz, and that she will force Nellie Bly to tell the names of the people who, the latter claims, are the parents of the baby.

The courts must answer the question: Is the baby little Arthur Wentz or is it little "Love of Mike," the son of a brick maker who died soon after the boy's birth? If they decide it is Arthur, the child will go to gladden the home of the Wentzs; if they decide it is "Love of Mike," then it will be legally adopted and cared for as the child of Nellie Bly, who in private life is Mrs. Elizabeth Seaman.

Last night at her home in the McAlpin Hotel, Miss Bly said:

"Within twenty-four hours I shall have the child with me. I shall utilize every legal proceeding until I get this little fellow, whom I intend to adopt as my own child."

Miss Bly then said:

"If it was the Wentz baby, I would, of course, offer no obstacle to Mr. and Mrs. Wentz keeping him. But I know without a question of a doubt that he is mine—Arthur Wentz."

She was born March 1 of this year on the lower West Side. His father, a mason, died soon after his birth, leaving little "Love of Mike," as he was called, and two other children to be supported by his mother, twenty-four years old.

"She made \$12 a week as an artificial flowermaker. Unable to support all the children and herself on this wage, she decided, much against her will, that she would have to part with little 'Love of Mike.' She had read of my articles asking persons to adopt homeless children, and determined to send him to me."

"Not being able to take time off from her work, she entrusted 'Love of Mike' to a neighbor to bring to me. The man became lost in the 'Big Five' and, I believe, and conceived the idea of writing a tag, in which he asked that the boy be sent

SEEK SINGER IN
SUIT FOR CHILDREN

Disposition of Winans Millions
May Depend on Testimony
of Spanish Girl.

By NEWTON C. PARKER.
(I. N. S. Staff Correspondent.)

PARIS, Dec. 18.—A world wide search is being made for the beautiful Spanish singer, Carmen Delgado, one of the principals in the romantic fight for possession of the two children of Thomas Winans and Victoria Delgado and also for the millions of the late Ross Winans of Baltimore.

Carmen, who is a cousin of the late Victoria Delgado Winans, eloped with Thomas Winans just before the outbreak of the war. They went first to Italy and then to Switzerland.

When Mr. Winans began his fight to secure his two children he bade farewell to Carmen, knowing that his case would be prejudiced if he continued to live with her. The beautiful singer disappeared. Thomas Winans' attorney now wishes to find her, declaring that it is of the utmost importance that she testify at the forthcoming trial.

Counsel for Mr. Winans declare that the girl's testimony is necessary to show that her relations with her cousin's husband were only platonic. The contention is made that the former and Carmen eloped so that the former could further the operative ambitions of the beautiful young Spanish girl.

Attorneys for Manuel Delgado, father-in-law of Thomas Winans, and for Princess Kapurthala, his sister-in-law, are spending large sums hunting for her. They want to prove by her that her relations with Thomas Winans were not platonic.

Carmen was last reported singing in Rome and planning engagements in Spain and the United States. Pending the trial and during the search for the bewitching Carmen the two young children of Thomas Winans are living in the care of their old grandparents in a dingy little apartment in Paris, under the control of the court.

U. S. VICTORY SEEN
IN PACKERS' PLAN

Bills to Regulate Industry Will
Be Pushed, However.
Senators Say.

Formal announcement that the "big five" packers have agreed to dissolve their control of industries unrelated to the meat business will be made this afternoon by the Department of Justice, according to information at Attorney General Palmer's office today.

While this was regarded by many officials as a victory for the U. S. in its attack on the high cost of living, some Congressmen believed that if the packers had entered into agreement with Palmer to discontinue their side lines, in return for the anti-trust suits against them being called off, such action would constitute a dangerous compromise between the Government and the alleged trust.

Senators in charge of the principal packer regulation bills declared they would go ahead with them regardless of the reports that the "big five" are to abandon their side lines.

Senator Gronna, chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, declared that the committee is going ahead January 5 with the packer bill without regard to any agreement the "big five" may make with Attorney General Palmer to withdraw from side lines.

"It looks like buncombe to me," Senator Gronna said.

Senator Harris, Georgia, formerly chairman of the Federal trade commission, declared that no one desired to wipe out the big packers, and that they ought to be willing to meet the Government half way.

"I am glad to see that the packers are beginning to meet the Government half way instead of defying it," Senator Harris said.

The Railroad Administration today announced the return of normal passenger transportation east of Chicago. Transportation was curtailed because of the coal shortage during the strike.

LANSING CITES
POLICY OF U.S.
TOWARD EGYPT

Expects British Will Abide By
Pledge to Respect Integrity
and Independence.

SENDS LETTER TO OWEN

Quotes Telegram From King
George In Which He Guar-
anteed Freedom for Nation.

Placing a definite interpretation upon its qualified recognition of the wartime British protectorate over Egypt, the State Department made it clear today that it assumes Great Britain intends to carry out its pledge of Egyptian independence, as made by King George to the late Sultan of Egypt on December 21, 1914.

Letter to Senator Owen.

The statement of policy was contained in a letter from Secretary Lansing to Robert L. Owen of Oklahoma, leading proponent in the Senate of Egyptian independence. Recently Senator Owen requested the Secretary of State to provide an explicit construction of American qualified assent to the protectorate.

"It is said," said Mr. Lansing, "that it is the purpose of Great Britain to carry out the assurances given by King George V of England to the late Sultan of Egypt, as published in the London Times of December 21, 1914."

King George, at that time, assured his "unfailing support in safeguarding the integrity of Egypt and in securing her future well-being and prosperity," and expressed his conviction that the Sultan would be able "to successfully overcome all the influences which are seeking to destroy the independence of Egypt, and the wealth, liberty, and happiness of the people."

Secretary Lansing pointed out that "the effect of this Government's qualified recognition of April, 1919, was to acknowledge, with the reservation set forth at that time, only such control of Egyptian affairs as had been set forth in the notice of the British government transmitted to the department on December 18, 1914."

For Protection of Interests.

The protectorate was imposed on Egypt, to use the language of the communication of the British government to the State Department, "in view of the state of war initiated by Turkey against Egypt."

"For the protection of the many and various important interests there."

The State Department observed in the letter to Senator Owen that it was not its understanding that Egypt was in possession of full independent sovereign rights, prior to the war.

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CLEMENCEAU ORDERED
TO TAKE COMPLETE REST

Premier Attends Sessions of Peace
Council Propped Up
in Chair.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—Doctors attending Premier Clemenceau, who is suffering from a fractured rib, have ordered him to take several days of complete rest immediately after the German treaty becomes a life-long rule by taking wine with his meals. He has always been an abstainer, but on account of his weakened condition his physicians advised him to drink wine instead of water with his food.

The aged premier attends the sessions of the supreme council propped up in a chair. His injured rib is tightly bandaged all the time. Clemenceau is having a difficult time to get his rest. He sleeps badly at night and is compelled to take short naps during the day.

2,114 SACKS OF MAIL
LOST AS SHIP HITS MINE

When the steamship Kerwood, which sailed from New York for Hamburg on November 15, 1919, struck a mine in the North sea, 2,114 sacks of parcel post mails were lost, the Post-office Department announced today.

The mail was destined for Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia.

TAKE BELL-ANS BEFORE MEALS AND
SEE HOW THIS GOOD DISPOSITION MAKES YOU FEEL.
-Advt.

POLICE RELIEF FUND
TOTALS \$5,433

Have You Chipped In?

All Washingtonians are urged to show their appreciation of the work done by the Metropolitan police force by aiding the movement to increase the fund for widows and orphans of members of the department who are killed in the line of duty.

Police sales of tickets for the ball to be given at Wardman Park Hotel December 22 for the benefit of the fund totaled \$5,433 this morning. The first precinct still leads with a total of \$1,127. You can send your contributions to the fund to The Times office. All the money raised is to be used for the relief of the widows and orphans of police who die on duty, as there is no official fund for this purpose.

SCOPE OF "LEAK"
PROBE BROADENED

Palmer Takes Charge of In-
vestigation and Will
Push Inquiry.

Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer today took charge of the investigation into the "leak" of Supreme Court decisions to persons who used them for Wall Street speculation. The Attorney General was put in touch with all developments of the scandal immediately upon his arrival here from the West.

The scope of the inquiry is broadening out those in charge of the investigation said today. Some of the leads discovered go into Wall Street, and it is not unlikely that several concerns in the Street will be called on for information by Government agents.

Government agents, tracing the movement of those who are known to have been in possession of the court's decisions hours in advance of their being handed down, are collecting data on the stocks that were dealt in, the amounts involved and the manner in which the speculators used their information.

New Angles Found.

"New angles are presenting themselves at every turn," it was said at the Department of Justice today. "There are many ramifications to this case which must be gone into."

An attempt on the part of certain outsiders to minimize the importance of the revelations was promptly squelched today by Department of Justice officials, who made it plain that they fully appreciate the gravity of the affair, and furthermore they did not make any secret of the fact that in their opinion, the case is still very much "alive" and will continue to be probed until the facts are unearthed.

May Reward Jenkins.

The two opinions of the note of today's case, it is plainly intimated that the Mexican Supreme Court may remain on the back again for trial to the state court of Puebla and that the Mexican government may not regard any statement or decision reached by Mr. Lansing as evidence or in any way binding.

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WILL YOU
Be a Good Fellow?

With Christmas Spirit Pervading the
City, Good Fellows Eagerly Seek Op-
portunities to Share Cheer With Less
Fortunate Families of Capital.

In the shop windows the lights play gayly on the wonderful things arranged so temptingly. Along the streets the powerful motors rush in ceaseless stream, bearing the occupants merrily to warm homes and excellent dinners. The streets are alive with joyous crowds. Laughter and banter rule. It does seem to be a world full of happiness.

It does appear impossible that poverty and misery and want and sickness and attending ills can be. Yet they are here—only a few yards, perhaps, from the gayest of the gay. They have always been here. We may hope that some day they will not be here. But that is a dream, and right now we are dealing with conditions.

Good Fellows Have Mission.

The Good Fellows have a mission. It is a simple mission. It has no place in theory. It is just to meet a condition that we have with us. It is easily done. A Good Fellow to qualify has only to write to The Times, tell how many of the poor and unfortunate need care for on Christmas, and then to himself.

The reward will be the sunshine it

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